

### **Remarks**

The courtesy of the telephone interview granted by examiner Dunwoody on September 5, 2003 is acknowledged. While, unfortunately, no resolution of the application was reached, it is hoped that a resolution can be reached shortly.

Given the examiner's advice that he maintains a very rigid stance when considering amendments after a final rejection, this Request for Continued Examination is being submitted to give the applicant the full latitude for appropriate amendments and/or arguments. This amendment, however, only deals with the formalities raised by the examiner in the June 6, 2003 office action, and also, as discussed with the examiner during the telephone interview, adds the word "sliding" to the independent claims.

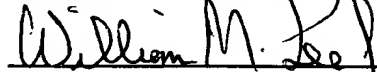
In making the amendments to satisfy the claim objection identified by the examiner in the June 6, 2003 office action, the problem with claim 20, line 2 could not be located. There is no such language that can be changed at that location, and nothing else could be located that may need that change. The examiner's clarification would be appreciated. The other changes have been made to satisfy the objections.

A further amendment will be submitted shortly to supplement this amendment and deal with the examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Hobbs U.S. Patent Number 2,878,041. Should the examiner reach this application before receiving that further amendment, it would be appreciated if the examiner would telephone the undersigned to ascertain the status of that further amendment so that, inadvertently, a further action is not issued without having all material before the examiner.

No extension of time is needed, since this response is being filed on September 8, 2003 and the shortened statutory deadline of September 6, 2003 was a Saturday.

September 8, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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